

**Lincoln County Resource Advisory Committee**  
Meeting Notes  
August 4, 2003

**Members Present:**

**Group A**

Lee Disney  
Tim Ryan  
Ken Stevens

**Group B**

Robyn King  
Peter Kitts  
Bill Martin  
Tim Lineman

**Group C**

Gary Huntsberger  
Rita Windom  
Russ Hudson  
Marianne Roose\*  
Bruce Vincent  
Eileen Carney

**Members Absent:**

Tony Johnson                      Wayne Hirst  
Keith Glover

\*Designates replacement members

**Forest Service Present:**

Bob Castaneda – Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Malcolm Edwards – Libby District Ranger, Russ Gautreaux, Supv Biol Scientist – Kris Newgard – Hydrologist, Josh Boyd – Hydro Tech, Gary Altman – Engineering Tech., Sandi Mason – Facilitator, Barbara Edgmon – Executive Secretary, Willie Sykes – Public Affairs

**Public Present:**

Marie Cripe, Bruce Zwang – Kootenai Winter Sports

**Meeting Notes:**

A motion to accept the minutes from the July 14, meeting was approved.

Bruce Zwang and Gary Altman discussed the Partnership with the Forest Service and Kootenai Winter Sports (KWS) about Turner Mountain Access Road and Parking Area project. The county has given Title III funds to support this issue and feels that the access road is a safety concern. The FS usually does not receive their budgets until spring. KWS needs work done this fall and will need funds as soon as possible. This is a high visibility project and the public supports it.

There were some questions on the budgets. Who controls the RAC funds – The FS controls the funds, the FS to do the contract administration. Phase 1 – will try to contract out or a group assume the responsibility. KWS could possibly do the work but overloaded with the lodge that's why the FS should administer the contract with their technical expertise. Bob will look into this issue.

Josh, Kris, and Robyn gave a presentation on the Headwaters/Dodge Summit Project. The old Dodge Summit road was closed in the mid 80s and is now used as a trail. This

project would reduce sediment to the East Fork of the Yaak River, provide fish passage where the culverts are a barrier and construct 4.6-mile trail from Yaak 92 to Mt. Robinson/Red Mountain Ridge. It will provide good habitat for the red band trout and provide recreational opportunities for hikers, etc. The project is estimated at \$30,000. They propose a multi year funding mechanism – Phase 1 funding for this year and resubmit the rest for funding in future years.

Russ Gautreaux led the discussion on the Callahan Trail Project. The NEPA and associated work on this project has been completed. Phase I of the old highway 2 trail project has been completed. Instead of all of it going to Phase II of the Old Highway 2 project, it would go to the Callahan Trail project. Phase II (Callahan Project) would be completed next year with the \$28,000. (See Mike Balboni's letter in project file)

Ed Levert gave a presentation on fire in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). He feels that if a fire starts on private lands it could threaten national Forest lands. Seventy-five percent of the funding could come from Title II funds and 25% from Homeowners in the (Rawlings tract area).

#### Prioritization of Projects:

The RAC decided to use the following for prioritizing projects. An equal amount of funds will be distributed to each district.

1. Streams
2. Road restoration

Priority order for other projects: 50% of funds.

1. Recreation/Wildlife Habitat Improvement
2. Weeds
3. Fuels Reduction/Thinning
4. Other education (leverage w/Title III) grazing and agriculture

Priority will be given to those projects with partnerships.

#### **Streams: # 1<sup>st</sup> Priority**

NEPA completed or near completed on the following projects:

Project Name	Sponsor	Type	NEPA	Funding
#1	Libby	Watershed, fish habitat restoration	Yes	\$8600
#6	Libby	Watershed, fish habitat restoration	Yes	\$5600
#7	Fortine	Watershed restoration	8/03	\$70,000
#19	Troy	Watershed restoration	Yes	\$25,000

#20	Troy/Yaak	Restores Water Quality	Yes	\$9000
#22	Eureka/Fortine	Watershed	Yes	\$5000
#37	Troy	Dodge Summit?	4/04	\$28,610

### **Roads: 2<sup>nd</sup> Priority**

Project Name	Sponsor	Type	NEPA	Funding
#3	Libby	Road Imp.	N/A	\$40,000
#4	Libby	Road Imp.	N/A	\$40,000
#5	Libby	Road BMP	N/A	\$50,000
#8	Libby	Road Imp.	N/A	\$70,000
#9,10,11	Libby	Road Imp.	N/A	\$40,000
#12	Eureka	Road BMP	Yes	\$35,000
#13	Eureka	Road BMP	Yes	\$20,000
#14	Eureka/Fortine	Road Imp.	Yes	\$15,000
#15	Eureka/Fortine	Road BMP	N/A	\$40,000
#16	Eureka/Fortine	Road BMP	N/A	\$20,000
#21	Troy/Yaak	Road/Watershed	Yes	\$58,650
#31	Troy	Road/Forest Health	N/A	\$48,950
#32	Troy	Road/Fish/Watershed	N/A	\$89,310
#33	Troy	Road/Watershed	N/A	\$96,625
#34	Troy	Road/Fish/Watershed	N/A	\$90,650
#36	Libby – Phase 1	Road Mtnce Watershed Restoration Mtnce	N/A	\$41,763

Send list to rangers for their priority order and dates NEPA will be completed.

Next Meeting: August 25, 2003 at the SO. Dinner will be at 5:30 and the price is \$8.00 and the regular meeting will begin at 6:00.

Willie Sykes  
8/13/03